

CLAIMS

1. A planar light emitting device comprising:

a transparent body made of a transparent synthetic resin layer containing no light scattering material;

- 5 a semi-transparent body made of a semi-transparent synthetic resin layer containing a light scattering material;

a diffusion layer formed between the transparent body and the semi-transparent body by joining the transparent body and the semi-transparent body, the diffusion layer having a sea-islands structure composed of a sea and a multiplicity of islands of irregular solid shapes provided on the sea in plan view;

10 at least the transparent body, the semi-transparent body and the diffusion layer defining a planar light emitter; and

a light source disposed at least at one side of the planar light emitter.

- 15 2. A planar light emitting device according to claim 1, in which the planar light emitter has a flat plate shape and comprises two or more layers of the transparent bodies, and the semi-transparent body is interposed between the transparent bodies.

- 20 3. A planar light emitting device according to claim 1, in which the planar light emitter has a flat plate shape and comprises three or more layers of the transparent bodies and two or more layers of the semi-transparent bodies, and the semi-transparent bodies are interposed between the transparent bodies, respectively, thereby providing three or more of the diffusion layers.

4. A table comprising a top board on which the light emitting device of claim 1 is disposed.

5. A table according to claim 4, in which the planar light emitter comprises at least two layers of the transparent bodies and the semi-transparent body interposed between the transparent bodies, the transparent bodies are disposed on an upper surface and a lower surface of the top board, respectively, so as to illuminate an upper side and a lower side of the top board.

10 6. A planar light emitting device according to claim 1, in which the planar light emitter has a rod shape and comprises the semi-transparent body at least at a portion of a cross section thereof, and the diffusion layer exists at least at the portion.

15 7. A planar light emitting device according to claim 1, in which the light source comprises an LED.

8. A vehicle meter comprising a meter having an element, the element being formed by the planar light emitting device according to claim 7.

20 9. A vehicle meter according to claim 8, in which the element of the meter comprises a pointer.

10. A vehicle meter according to claim 8, in which the element of the meter
25 comprises a dial.

11. A vehicle meter according to claim 8, in which the element of the meter comprises a pointer and a dial.

5 12. A vehicle meter according to claim 8, in which the LED comprises two or more colors of LEDs so as to control a light emitted from the element of the meter into a plurality of colors.

13. A side step for a vehicle comprising the planar light emitting device of claim 7.

10 14. A side step for a vehicle according to claim 13, in which the planar light emitter has an elongate rectangular flat plate shape so as to form a main part of the side step, and the transparent body is disposed on one thickness side of the side step so as to illuminate a lower side of a door of the vehicle.

15 15. A sound illumination device comprising the planar light emitting device of claim 7.

16. A sound illumination device according to claim 15, in which the planar light
20 emitter has a ring plate shape, and the LED is controlled to emit light in accordance with sounds of a speaker so as to illuminate the planar light emitter.

17. A stick lamp comprising the planar light emitting device of claim 7.

25 18. A stick lamp according to claim 17, in which the transparent body has a

tubular shape so as to be disposed on an outer periphery, and the semi-transparent body is filled in the transparent body.

100
101
102
103
104
105
106
107
108
109
110
111
112
113
114
115
116
117
118
119
120
121
122
123
124
125
126
127
128
129
130
131
132
133
134
135
136
137
138
139
140
141
142
143
144
145
146
147
148
149
150
151
152
153
154
155
156
157
158
159
160
161
162
163
164
165
166
167
168
169
170
171
172
173
174
175
176
177
178
179
180
181
182
183
184
185
186
187
188
189
190
191
192
193
194
195
196
197
198
199
200